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LETTER DATED 19 MAY 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TOGO TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the agreement on ceasefire in Sierra Leone signed in Lomé on 18 May 1999 by Alhadji Dr. Ahmad Tejan Kabbah, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone, and Corporal Foday Saybana Sankoh, Leader of the Revoluticnary United Front (RUF), witnessed by His Excellency Mr. Gnassingbe Eyadema, President of the Togolese Republic, current Chairman of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), and representatives of the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity and the Government of the United States of America (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and the text of the agreement circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Roland Y. KPOTSRA

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Annex

Agreement on ceasefire in Sierra Leone

[Original: English and French]

President Ahmed Tejan Kabbah and Reverend Jesse Jackson met on 18 May 1999 with Corporal Foday Saybana Sankoh, under the auspices of President Gnassingbe Eyadema. At that meeting, the question of the peace process for Sierra Leone was discussed.

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The Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone and the Revolutionary United Front of Sierra Leone (RUF/SL),

- Desirous to promote the ongoing dialogue process with a view to establishing durable peace and stability in Sierra Leone; and

- Wishing to create an appropriate atmosphere conducive to the holding of peace talks in Lomé, which began with the RUF internal consultations to be followed by dialogue between the Government and RUF;

Have jointly decided to:

1. Agree to ceasefire as from 24 May 1999, the day that President Eyadema invited Foreign Ministers of ECOWAS to discuss problems pertaining to Sierra Leone. It was further agreed that the dialogue between the Government of Sierra Leone and RUF would commence on 25 May 1999;

2. Maintain their present and respective positions in Sierra Leone as of 24 May 1999; and refrain from any hostile or aggressive act which could undermine the peace process;

3. Commit to start negotiations in good faith, involving all relevant parties in the discussions, not later than 25 May in Lomé;

4. Guarantee safe and unhindered access by humanitarian organizations to all people in need; establish safe corridors for the provision of food and medical supplies to ECOMOG soldiers behind RUF lines, and to RUF combatants behind ECOMOG lines;

5. Immediate release of all prisoners of war and non-combatants;

6. Request the United Nations, subject to the Security Council's authorization, to deploy military observers as soon as possible to observe compliance by the Government forces (ECOMOG and Civil Defence Forces) and the RUF, including former AFRC forces, with this ceasefire agreement.

This agreement is without prejudice to any other agreement or additional protocols which may be discussed during the dialogue between the Government and RUF.

Signed in Lomé (Togo), 18 May 1999, in six (6) originals in English and French.

For the Government of
Sierra Leone

Alhadji Dr. Ahmad Tejan KABBAH
President of the Republic of
Sierra Leone

For the Revolutionary United
Front of Sierra Leone

Corporal Foday Saybana SANKOH
Leader of the Revolutionary United
Front (RUF)

Witnessed by:

For the Government of Togo and
Current Chairman of ECOWAS

Gnassingbe EYADEMA
President of the Togolese Republic

For the United Nations

Francis G. OKELO
Special Representative of the
Secretary-General for Sierra Leone

For the Organization of African
Unity (OAU)

Adwoa COLEMAN
Representative of the Organization
of African Unity

United States Presidential Special
Envoy for the Promotion of Democracy
in Africa

Reverend Jesse JACKSON